

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Takashi WATANABE et al.**

Art Unit: **2818**

Application Number: **10/823,729**

Examiner: **David Vu**

Filed: **April 14, 2004**

Confirmation Number: **5344**

For: **SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE FABRICATION METHOD**

Attorney Docket Number: **042341**

Customer Number: **38834**

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

MAIL STOP: RCE

Commissioner for Patents

January 19, 2010

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated October 16, 2009, whose period for response expires January 16, 2010 (a Saturday), and concurrent with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), kindly amend the above-identified application as set forth below. In view of the same as well as the following remarks, kindly reconsider and further examine the application.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.